

**GUN OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF NAMIBIA
(GOAN)**

CONSTITUTION

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1. MISSION

The mission of the Association is to uphold the Fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms as enshrined in the Constitution of Namibia and to give all fire-arm owners in the Republic of Namibia affordable access to law in upholding their entrenched fundamental rights in terms of the Namibian Constitution.

2. NAME

The name of the association is the "Gun Owners Association of Namibia (abbreviated term "GOAN"), hereinafter referred to as "the Association".

3. LEGAL PERSONALITY

3.1 The Association is a legal entity and in existence separate from its members and will in its own name and independent from its members or it's Executive Management Committee-

- purchase, rent, possess, alienate movable and/or immovable property; and/or
- enter into agreements or contracts; and/or
- invoke liabilities and obligations; and/or
- institute and/or oppose legal actions.

3.2 The monetary liability of each member of the Association is limited to the members' membership fee as determined by the Constitution of the Association.

3.3 The income and the property of the Association shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the mission of the Association as set out in this constitution and shall not be used for personal benefit of any of the members of the Association.

4. HEADQUARTERS

The Association's Headquarters is situated in Windhoek, Republic of Namibia.

5. AFFILIATION

The Association may in the interest of its members, affiliate to a National or International body, which body has the same objectives as the Association and such affiliation will be to the general benefit of the Association's members. Such affiliation may not be to the detriment of the Association's members and will not influence the independence of the Association as an independent legal entity.

6. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Association are:

- 6.1 To protect and uphold the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia in so far as it relates to the ownership and/or possession and/or use of arms and/or ammunition for work, sport, recreation, hunting, self-defence and/or any other legitimate purpose.
- 6.2 To co-operate with other entities and organisations, nationally and/or internationally, that have the same or similar objectives as the Association in the preservation, protection, furthering and promotion of the right to own, bear and use of arms and/or ammunition.
- 6.3 To engage and/or co-operate with the government in the preservation, protection, furthering and promotion of the right to own, bear and use of arms and/or ammunition.
- 6.4 The Association is a non-political organisation and does not have any political affiliations.
- 6.5 The Association is a non-profit organisation, but have the following rights:
 - 6.5.1 May purchase, possess, lease, bond and alienate any immovable property which it deems necessary for obtaining its objectives;
 - 6.5.2 May lend and repay/guarantee to repay funds, which it deems necessary for obtaining its objectives;
 - 6.5.3 To invest funds in any manner, or to call up any investment, or re-invest any funds;
 - 6.5.4 To purchase and sell shares;
 - 6.5.5 May open a bank account;
- 6.6 To become members of other like-minded forums/associations/trusts or any legal entities.
- 6.7 To do and/or take all necessary actions which are reasonably necessary in obtaining the Associations objectives.

- 6.8 To scrutinise relevant existing or draft laws and regulations and to give an input and or take action in promoting the objectives of the Association.

7. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be at the discretion of the Executive Management Committee and in accordance with criteria as determined by the Executive Management Committee from time to time.

Any person or body who wishes to become a member of the Association must apply on the prescribed form, together with proof of payment of the annual membership fees. Such an application is subject to the approval by the Executive Management Committee. The Executive Management Committee will not have to supply any reasons if an application has been refused.

Membership is divided into the following groups:

- 7.1 Ordinary Membership
Only persons 18 years of age and older will qualify for Ordinary membership.
- 7.2 Pensioner Membership
A Pensioner member is an Ordinary member who is 65 years of age or older on or before the beginning of the relevant year. Such member may apply for a reduction of the annual membership fees.
- 7.3 Corporate Membership
Corporate membership is open to any legal Business, Association, Sports Club or Body that wishes to support the Association or that may have a vested interest in the Objectives of the Association.
- 7.4 Honorary Membership
Honorary membership can be awarded at the Annual General Meeting of the Executive Management Committee on the recommendation of a member/s older than 25 years of age, and who the Executive Management Committee deems to have supplied exceptional service to the Association in the promotion of the objectives of the Association in general. Honorary members enjoy full voting rights, but do not have to pay any annual membership fees. Such Honorary membership is awarded for life, but may be terminated by the Executive Management Committee should such Honorary member act in a manner which is not worthy of the award.

Ordinary and Corporate members that fail to pay their annual membership fees by the required date, will remain members, but will forfeit their voting rights until such time as payment is made.

8. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

A Members' membership can be terminated as follows:

- 8.1 On written notice of termination by the member to the Secretary of the Association and such notice to be received by the Secretary prior to the date on which annual membership fees are due;
- 8.2 The Executive Management Committee may terminate a Members' membership if the Executive Management Committee is of the opinion that such member did not act in the best interest of the Association.

On termination of the Members' membership, such member will forfeit all and any amounts already paid to the Association and such member must return all of the Associations property in his/her possession immediately.

9. MEMBERSHIP FEE

- 9.1 Annual Membership fees are determined by the Executive Management Committee from time to time or at the Annual General Meeting.
- 9.2 Membership is valid for one (1) year;
- 9.3 Annual Membership fees are payable in advance on/or before the end of the financial year of the Association, being the 28th of February of each year.
- 9.4 A member who fails to pay membership fees on/or before the end of the Financial year will remain a member, but will have limited privileges and no voting rights.

10. MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Executive Management Committee is decided at the Annual General Meeting of the Association by way of a simple majority vote. Any term of office is limited to two (2) years.

Executive Management Committee will consist of the following positions:

- 10.1 Chairman
- 10.2 Vice-chairperson
- 10.3 Secretary
- 10.4 Treasurer
- 10.5 Any additional member as is required.

11. QUORUM

- 11.1 A Quorum at an Annual General Meeting and a Special General Meeting will be at least 30% of members with voting rights present at such meeting. If a quorum is not established by the time laid down for Annual General Meeting in question, then such meeting shall stand adjourned for a period of thirty (30) minutes. Such persons that may be present at the adjourned meeting shall then constitute a quorum of the Annual General Meeting.
- 11.2 A Quorum for the Executive Management Committee will consist of half of the members plus one.

12. ABSENCE FROM MEETING

- 12.1 A member of the Executive Management Committee who is absent from two consecutive meetings without good reason, is automatically relieved from his/her office and the vacancy can be filled by the Chairman co-opting any Ordinary Member or by election at the following Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.
- 12.2 If a member of the Executive Management Committee is unable to attend a meeting, then a member must be appointed to attend the meeting in their stead, which member will then act as a proper member of the Executive Management Committee for the duration of the meeting in question.

13. NOMINATIONS FOR EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

All nominations for management posts on the Executive Management Committee must be done in writing and be submitted to the Secretary at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting. Nominations must be signed by the person being nominated, as well as two (2) other Ordinary members. Only fully paid Ordinary members

may stand for any Executive Management Committee posts or make nominations for Executive Management Committee posts.

14. AUTHORITY AND DUTIES OF EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Executive Management Committee will be responsible for:

- 14.1 The public image of the Association and to act as a communication channel for and on behalf of its members.
- 14.2 Control, administration and co-ordination of the day-to-day management of the Association in accordance with the constitution of the Association.
- 14.3 Appointing employees, with remuneration and under conditions of service, as may be deemed fit, in pursuance of the Association's objectives and to suspend and/or dismiss such employees at their discretion.
- 14.4 Taking action/s, which is reasonably necessary, so as to advance and give effect to the objectives of the Association in accordance with the constitution of the Association and thereby ensuring that the objectives of this constitution is fulfilled and maintained at all times.
- 14.5 Signing of all property transactions, inter alia purchase agreements, bonds, power of attorney, loan agreements, consents, affidavits, etc. and all such property transactions must be signed by at least two (2) 2 (two) persons as may be appointed in writing by the Executive Management Committee.
- 14.6 Having at least three (3) 3 (three) meetings a year and that proper minutes be kept at such meetings.
- 14.7 Signing powers for the Association bank account will be at least two (2) persons as may be appointed in writing by the Executive Management Committee.
- 14.8 Hearing appeals relating to any disciplinary hearings in terms of the disciplinary code.
- 14.9 Making recommendations for the suspension of Honorary Members.
- 14.10 Arranging the Annual General Meeting and the Year End Function.
- 14.11 Proper bookkeeping.
- 14.12 The making of general rules for the proper conduct of the Association.
- 14.13 Planning and executing programs and activities that serve to fulfil the mission and objectives of the Association.
- 14.14 Applying for and receiving funds, donations and gifts of any description.

These powers may be carried out on behalf of the Association by any member of the Executive Management Committee with the prior approval of the Executive Management Committee.

15. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 15.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at Windhoek, Republic of Namibia on a date to be decided by the Executive Management Committee, but no later than the end of October of each year;
- 15.2 Members will be advised of the date, time and place on which the Annual General Meeting will be held, in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- 15.3 The Agenda and Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting will be forwarded to all Ordinary members at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- 15.4 Members whose fees are paid up to date will have a right to vote at the Annual General Meeting and will have only one vote per each separate matter that is brought to vote.
- 15.5 At the Annual General Meeting:
 - 15.5.1 The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting will be read.
 - 15.5.2 The reports of the Chairman of the Executive Management Committee will be presented.
 - 15.5.3 The Financial Statements of the Association will be presented and discussed.
 - 15.5.4 All proposals to amend the constitution shall be sent out to all Ordinary members at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual General Meeting and no suggestions relating to the amendment of the Constitution will be considered on the day.
 - 15.5.5 Consideration will be given to the increase or reduction in membership/annual/affiliation fees.
 - 15.5.6 Discussion on general matters.
 - 15.5.7 Officials of the Executive Management Committee will be elected.
 - 15.5.8 The bookkeepers of the Association will be appointed.

16. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

- 16.1 The Executive Management Committee has the right and is obligated if requested, in writing, to do so by 10% percent of the members with

voting rights; or if the Executive Management Committee deems it necessary, to arrange a Special General Meeting with at least thirty (30) days written notice thereof. An agenda with the matter for discussion at the special general meeting must accompany the notification of such special general meeting.

- 16.2 Only matters which have been requested in writing, and placed on the agenda for the special general meeting will be attended to.
- 16.3 The Executive Management Committee will keep proper minutes at such special general meetings.

17. GENERAL

- 17.1 At any meeting of the Association, voting will take place by way of a show of hands or by way of ballot papers. The meeting may decide on the manner of voting.
- 17.2 At all the meetings of the Association, the chairman will have an ordinary, as well as a casting vote. Ordinary members and Corporate members will have one (1) vote.

18. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- 18.1 The Constitution can only be amended by a two-thirds majority of the members eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.
- 18.2 The proposed amendment of the Constitution must be set out in the agenda for the meeting and must be accepted, in essence, in the form as set out in the agenda that was circulated.

19. EXEMPTION OF LIABILITY

Any member of the Executive Management Committee is exempted from payment of all and any costs, loss, damage for which he/she may be legally responsible due to his/her action/s and/or omission/s in the carrying out of his/her responsibilities in terms of the constitution of the Association. The Association will carry such costs, loss or damage, only in the event that such costs, loss or damage was not caused by such member's gross negligence or on purpose.

20. ACCOUNTANT

At the Annual General Meeting the members will vote to appoint a registered accountant to keep accurate financial records of the association.

The Executive Management Committee will submit three (3) quotations for accounting services to the Annual General Meeting for consideration.

21. DISSOLUTION OF ASSOCIATION

Should it be decided to dissolve the Association, at least one third of the members of the Association will, at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, decide on what to do with the assets of the Association. If there are less than one third of the members present at such meeting, the meeting will be adjourned for a period of 21 (twenty-one) days, on which date the meeting will be resumed and all matters be concluded, notwithstanding the number of members present at such meeting.

Gun Owners Association of Namibia

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

Type of Member	Annual Membership Fee
1. Ordinary Member	N\$ 150.00
2. Pensioner Member	N\$ 75.00
3. Corporate Member	N\$ 1500.00